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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Taggart

Examiner: Tawfik, S.

Serial No. : 09/306,552

Art Unit: 3721

Filing Date: 05/06/99

Dkt. No.: STEU-2418

Title: Method and Apparatus for Aseptic Packaging

Commissioner For Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 12, 2000, please reconsider the above-referenced patent application as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 21 remain pending.

Claims 1-11, 16-19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gies (4,862,933) in view of Olsson (5,799,464). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as follows.

Gies fails to teach or suggest, the invention as claimed which *inter alia*, includes "...providing a plurality of **bottles**; aseptically disinfecting the plurality of **bottles**," as recited in claim 1. Gies fails to teach or suggest, the invention as claimed *inter alia*, includes "...means for providing a plurality of **bottles**; means for aseptically disinfecting the plurality of **bottles**," as recited in claim 21. Gies discloses (col. 1, lines 12-14) "Yogurt, pudding, butter, and other semiliquid materials,